

Message Text

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21

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 /184 W

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P R 170215Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 266

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3988

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CB

SUBJ: KHMER QUESTION: GENERAL COMMITTEE ACTION OCT 16

REF: USUN 3954

SUMMARY. GENERAL COMITE LATE OCT 16 RECOMMENDED INSCRIPTION
OF PRO-SIHANOUK ITEM BY VOTE YES-11, NO-2 (US, FIJI),
ABSTENTION-10. PLENARY VOTE ON GC RECOMMENDATION EXPECTED
AFTERNOON OCT 17. END SUMMARY.

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1. USSR, HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA VOTED FOR INSCRIPTION,

AS DID CHINA, CAMEROON, LEBANON, MEXICO, SRI LANKA, TANZANIA, UAE, GUYANA (UGANDA NOT PRESENT); US AND FIJI WERE ONLY NEGATIVE VOTES. DESPITE HONDURAS' EARLIER CONFIRMATION TO US AND OTHER FRIENDLY DELS, HONDURAS ABSTAINED, WITHOUT EXPLANATION OF VOTE. VENEZUELA ABSTAINED, ALTHOUGH NOT OPPOSED IN PRINCIPLE TO INSCRIPTION, BECAUSE PROPOSAL PRE-JUDGED LEGAL ISSUE AND IT WAS NOT UP TO UN TO DICTATE FORM OF GOVT; UK AND NETHERLANDS ALSO ABSTAINED, AS DID ETHIOPIA (CLAIMING LACK OF INSTRUCTION).

2. IN OPENING PROCEDURAL WRANGLE, CHINA AND OTHERS OPPOSED PHILIPPINE AND KHMER REQUEST TO ADDRESS GC, CLAIMING BOTH INELIGIBLE SINCE THEY NOT MEMBERS OF GC NOR COSPONSORS OF NEW ITEM WHICH GC DISCUSSING. US REP (REIS) SPOKE IN FAVOR OF HEARING TWO COUNTRIES. GC THEN VOTED 8 IN FAVOR (DENMARK, FIJI, NETHERLANDS, SPAIN, TUNISIA, UK, US AND VENEZUELA), 4 AGAINST (CHINA, CAMEROON, UGANDA AND USSR) WITH 7 ABSTENTIONS /CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, GHANA, HUNGARY, SRI LANKA AND UAE) TO PERMIT KHMER AND PHILIPPINE REPS TO ADDRESS GC. OTHER DELS EITHER DID NOT VOTE OR WERE NOT PRESENT.

3. ALGERIA HAD OPENED DEBATE OCTOBER 16, IN RESUMED DEBATE, COSPONSORS LED OFF WITH SPEECHES BY ALBANIA AND SENEGAL WHICH RE-HASED LANGUAGE OF THEIR PROPOSED RESOLUTION AND EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM, EMPHASIZING GRUNK CONTROLLED 90 PERCENT OF CAMBODIAN TERRITORY AND 80 PERCENT OF POPULATION. OTHER COSPONSORS (YUGO, ROMANIA, CONGO, CUBA, SOMALIA, MALI) ECHOED THESE THEMES WITH OCCASIONAL REFERENCE TO NEED FOR UN TO ACT FAVORABLY ON INSCRIPTION TO SHOW IT WAS IN STEP WITH TIMES. PHILIPPINE REP, SPEAKING AT REQUEST ASEAN GROUP, READ OUT ASEAN CONSENSUS EMPHASIZING NECESSITY FOR CAMBODIAN PEOPLE TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN FATE. HE NOTED PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD ARISE IF UN BEGAN SEATING GOVERNMENTS-IN-EXILE.

4. LONG BORET (RKG FONMIN) SPOKE AT SOME LENGTH TO REBUT ENTIRE RANGE OF CHARGES AGAINST HIS GOVT, ALLUDING TO "FALLACIOUS ARGUMENTS" AND "FATUOUS STATEMENTS" MADE EARLIER. HE DEFENDED GDR LEGALITY, DENYING THERE HAD BEEN A COPU D'ETAT, AND NOTED SIHANOUK'S CONTINUED PRESENCE OUTSIDE CAMBODIA. GRUNK EXISTED, HE SAID, ONLY BECAUSE OF PEKING.
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5. CHINA (HUANG HUA) STATED GRUNK WAS SOLE LAWFUL GOVT OF CAMBODIA, LON NOL A PUPPET REGIME FOSTERED BY FOREIGN FORCES. US HAD INSTIGATED LON NOL COUP AND THEN SENT TROOPS INTO CAMBODIA. BROAD MASSES OF CAMBODIAN PEOPLE HAD UNITED AROUND GRUNK. GKR WAS "EATING OUT ITS LIFE" IN PHNOM PENH AND SEVERAL OTHER ISOLATED CITIES. SAID OTHERS (OPPOSING INSCRIPTION) HAD REFERRED TO OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE BUT ONLY

OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE WAS FROM US, WHICH HAD NOT CEASED YET.

6. FIJI, ONLY OTHER EA MEMBER OF GC, SAID NOT OPPOSED TO INSCRIPTION IN PRINCIPLE, BUT EVEN TITLE OF NEW ITEM PREJUDGED QUESTION; HE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED NEUTRAL AND OBJECTIVE LANGUAGE. SITUATION IN CAMBODIA WAS FLUID AND UN DISCUSSIONS NOT ONLY PREMATURE BUT PREJUDGED PREROGATIVE OF PEOPLE CONCERNED. PENDING DECISIVE CHANGE IN SITUATION UN CANNOT IGNORE DE FACTO SITUATION. FIJI WOULD NOT NORMALLY OPPOSE, BUT WOULD VOTE AGAINST INSCRIPTION THIS TIME.

7. AMB BENNETT, SPEAKING FOR US, NOTED ITEM WOULD ASK UN TO INTERFERE GRATUITOUSLY IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF MEMBER STATES. HE STRESSED THAT NEIGHBORING ASIANS OVERWHELMINGLY OPPOSED SUCH INTERFERENCE WHILE 32 SIHANOUK COSPONSORS INCLUDED ONLY ONE NEAR NEIGHBOR OF GKR. REFUTING CHINESE AND OTHER CHARGES, BENNETT SAID SIHANOUK LEGALLY DEPOSED AND, DESPITE EXAGGERATED GRUNK TERRITORIAL CLAIMS RECORDED IN ITEM'S EXPLANATORY MEMO, SIHANOUK CONTINUED RESIDE ABROAD. CHARGES THAT PRO-GKR STATES INTERFERING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS HELD SPECIAL IRONY, HE SAID, GIVEN FACT IT IS SIHANOUK SUPPORTERS THAT WOULD HAVE UN IMPOSE DECISION ON CLEARLY INTERNAL KHMER MATTER.

8. THAI PERMREP ANAND TOLD US AFTER VOTE THAT ETHIOPIAN PERMREP ZEWDE CONFIDED HE DID HAVE INSTRUCTIONS THAT WOULD HAVE PERMITTED HIM TO VOTE YES ON INSCRIPTION BUT HE (ZEWDE) DECIDED TO ABSTAIN AND FELT THIS WAS BEST HE COULD DO. HALF-WAY THROUGH DEBATE, CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED EGYPT HAD BECOME CO-SPONSOR OF PRO-SIHANOUK ITEM. LEBANESE AND UAE DECISION SUPPORT INSCRIPTION PROBABLY CLINCHED BY EGYPTIAN COSPONSORSHIP WHICH SEVERAL DELS HAVE INTERPRETED AS REACTION TO US MIDDLE EAST POLICY.

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9. AFTER MEETING ADJOURNED, KHMER FONMIN LONG BORET EXPRESSED TO AMB BENNETT HIS SATISFACTION AT RESULT OF MEETING, NOTING THAT ALTHOUGH WE HAD EXPECTED ITEM WOULD BE INSCRIBED, NUMBER OF ABSTENTIONS INDICATED LACK OF SUPPORT. CANADIAN, AUSTRALIAN, JAPANESE AND THAI DELOFFS COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON US STATEMENT WITH THAI AMB ANAND NOTING THERE NOW NO QUESTION OF US SUPPORT FOR GKR.
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973USUNN03988
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BENNETT
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731026/aaaaasoy.tel
Line Count: 163
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USUN 3954
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KHMER QUESTION: GENERAL COMMITTEE ACTION OCT 16
TAGS: PFOR, CB, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005